THE DISSEMINATOR
Nova Scotia Provincial Library

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An electronic newsletter from the Nova Scotia Provincial Library

3770 Kempt Road, Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3K 4X8
(902) 424-2457; FAX (902) 424-0633

Also available on the Web at:

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many contributors for their interesting text and photos for this issue. Check it out on the WWW at www.library.ns.ca/provlib/disseminator/index93_98/dissv5n6.html. Note that the photos on the Web version have embedded captions.

ANNAPOLIS VALLEY REGIONAL LIBRARY NEWS

All in a Week's Work

Demonstrations and training at computer terminals have been made available all year throughout the regions to staff and public on the following topics: the NcompasS and NovaNet catalogues, Acadia University's catalogue, and the World Wide Web.

Meet two of the staff people who have helped in some of the Annapolis Valley Regional Library automation projects over the last year - Corinne Frantel, Head of Reference at Annapolis Valley Regional Library and Johanna Cooper, Automation Specialist at the Nova Scotia Provincial Library, who breathe a sigh of relief as their hard work comes to fruition!

CAPE BRETON REGIONAL LIBRARY NEWS

Snapshots of Activities at CBRL

Cape Breton Regional Library staff members Denise MacPherson and Faye MacDougall are shown here at the Wiseman's Home Show in April. Over 2,000 people attended the 2 day show, many stopping at the Regional Library's booth.

Library Art Displays

Cape Breton Regional Library summer co-op student Danielle Tobin views the work of local art students. This is one of many art displays held annually in the Program Room of the McConnell Library, Sydney.

Summer Reading Program

On June 13, 1988, staff at the McConnell Library in Sydney launched this year's Summer Reading Program, "Kids Connect at the Library". To get in the spirit of the event, staff wore hats from around the world. Pictured here are Angela MacLeod, Jo-Anne MacSween and Beverly McGee from the McConnell Library.

McLennan's of Petersfield website

A major celebration took place June 11 at the McConnell Library in Sydney, when the McLennan's of Petersfield website was officially launched. In the photo, taken from the Cape Breton Post, June 12, 1998, Carolyn Whalen, a researcher with the project, looks over an album with Nancy More of Sydney, who was a long-time friend of Katherine McLennan. See the May issue of The Disseminator for more on this topic.

COLCHESTER-EAST HANTS REGIONAL LIBRARY (CEHRL) NEWS

Friends of the Library Activities

CEHRL has been working to broaden the public awareness of its branches, services and potential. In the last 6 months the community relations department and staff have been looking at the methods of distribution of information, particularly in the very rural areas. Our Friends of the Library had a very busy spring. The Silent Book Auction had a different focus this time with all books being donated by "important" personages in our town. This intrigued the public - they wanted to see what books their community leaders chose - and prompted the funders and decision makers to stop and think about the library.

The "Café on the Lawn" event was an elegant affair as you can see in the photo. The Attic Painters were present with their annual show and sale.

The second annual Cobequid Kite Festival is coming up in September and the Friends will be very busy preparing for that. The photo shows that the first Kite Festival was held under sunny skies!

International Tulip Festival

Partnering with the Truro Chamber of Commerce gave CEHRL a wonderful opportunity to participate in the first International Tulip Festival. The reception for the Deputy Ambassador for the Netherlands was held in the Truro branch auditorium with the political, business and organization leaders from our town and county in attendance. The regional library and Superstore co-sponsored the reception which featured the Truro Concert Band. A celebrity birdhouse auction and gladiola sale was held under a tent. A pipe and drum band escorted the participants from the lawn to the reception, and the *Live at 5* radio program was done from the Truro branch. This event gained the attention of the town and the feedback was very positive! You can find out more about the "Friends" at their new home page at http://www.library.ns.ca/regionals/ceh/friends.html.

CUMBERLAND REGIONAL LIBRARY NEWS

Summer Reading Club

The Amherst Credit Union, which is a regular supporter of the annual Summer Reading Club, is again sponsoring the Summer Reading Club at the Cumberland Regional Library. The theme this year is "Kids Connect @ The Library", and is open to independent readers aged five to twelve years. Preschoolers aged three to five may also join, provided a reading buddy will help them. Last year, 456 members were enrolled county wide, with even more expected this summer. Prizes are to be awarded at the end of August for every four books read, to a maximum of sixteen books. Included in the list of prizes are posters, pencils, buttons, bookmarks and t-shirts. In this photo, from the Amherst Daily News, June 22, Bob Coffin, manager of the Amherst Credit Union, presents Frances Newman, with a sponsorship cheque.

EASTERN COUNTIES REGIONAL LIBRARY (ECRL) NEWS

Celebrating Opening of Cafe.com

Cafe.com. is the new community access site located at the Strait Area Education and Recreation Centre

(SAERC) which also houses the Port Hawkesbury Branch Library. It is a joint project of the Strait Regional School Board, Human Resources Development Canada, Industry Canada, SAERC and Eastern Counties Regional Library. These organizations worked together to introduce computers to school & public patrons, offering walk-in service and service by appointment. Two new computers and a laser printer are now available for the public during school and public library open hours.

Darren Doyle is community network coordinator for the Strait East Nova Community Enterprise Network (SENCEN). He is shown here speaking with Robert Proctor, SENCEN's technology and program manager.

In the Port Hawkesbury Branch Library, staff have noticed a 60% increase in Internet usage in the last twelve months. Tourist season is now in full swing and many visitors are stopping in at libraries to investigate their past in local lists and genealogical collections. The Internet access has been a boon in their research. Many people also take a few minutes to e-mail messages home to friends and family.Community Access Project Committee staff and library staff worked together to set up and to maintain the equipment. In addition to offering Internet access, Cafe.com also allows the public to explore the field of television technology through its video editing, midi sound and graphic work stations.

John Stub, manager of Cafe.com; Julia MacQuarrie, former chair of ECRL Board; Mary Jesse MacDonald, member of the Strait Regional School Board; Alana MacInnis, principal at SAERC; Paula Davis, Port Hawkesbury Recreation Department; Jack Beaton, director of the Mulgrave Professional Development Centre; Heather Halliday, User Services Librarian with ECRL, and Darren Doyle, SENCEN. (MacInnis cut the ribbon to officially open Cafe.com on April 10, 1998.)

Reading Circle Story Hour at ECRL's Petit-de-Grat branch

A regular activity at Petit de Grat's Le Centre La Picasse is the reading circle where parents and their children ages 0-6 are invited one Wednesday every month. Children sometimes come into a region with their families on a temporary basis, too, and they are also welcome to join in all the activities as long as they are around. Rumour has it that these animated little visitors sometimes break hearts of library staff when they have to leave!

Eric Wright-Thibeau got his picture on the front page of The Reporter, February 6. He's a member of the 10 am reading circle at Petit de Grat's Le Centre La Picasse.

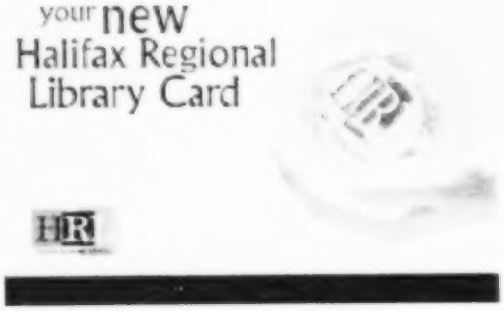
HALIFAX REGIONAL LIBRARY NEWS

Council Approves New Library

The Halifax Regional Library has received a commitment of $12 million from the Halifax Regional Municipality toward a new library to replace the aging Spring Garden Road Memorial Public Library in downtown Halifax. This support is contingent on further funding being approved by the Provincial government. A target of $9.7 million has been set to be achieved through a $4.7 million bequest, provincial cost-sharing, and a fundraising campaign.

"A World of Information in the Palm of Your Hand"

Newly registered patrons of the Halifax Regional Library now receive their library cards in an attractive "wallet" mailer. The appealing, futuristic image implies that your new library card will allow you to access a world of information, while emphasizing the importance of receiving your new card. The mailer also includes information on borrowing, fines, holds, lost cards and lending periods.



Gibson, Vaughan Win 1998 Dartmouth Book Awards

At a special 10th anniversary gala dinner and awards ceremony held in late May, Betty Boudreau Vaughan was presented the $1,000 Jarislowsky-Fraser Limited Award for Fiction for " I'll Buy You an Ox" (Nimbus Publishing), a compelling novel about rural Acadian life in the 1950s and 60s. Merritt Gibson was awarded the $1,000 Knight, Bain, Seath & Holbrook Award for Non-Fiction for "The Old Place" (Lancelot Press). Gibson's work combines his interest in nature and his experience in local government to encourage readers to become involved in restoring and conserving natural places. Illustrations were done by Twila Robar-DeCoste.

Shown here is Betty Boudreau Vaughan at the gala with a copy of her prize-winning book, " I'll Buy You an Ox" .

Make Yourself Famous Awards Night

Talented young artists and writers were recognized at the annual Art, Story, Poetry and Audio Visual Contest Awards Night held May 19 at the Halifax North Branch Library.

Ashley Boliver's lifelike "Lion in the Grass" placed first in the Grade 5-6 Art category.

LEARNING RESOURCES AND TECHNOLOGY (LRT) MEDIA LIBRARY NEWS

The Media Library at Learning Resources and Technology provides video resources to teachers in Nova Scotia. The collection consists of about 7,000 titles which are available as loans or as dubbing resources. This means acquiring a license that allows duplication of certain resources so that a teacher or school can have a copy of a video to keep at their school. The Department of Education and Culture purchases Public Performance Rights for each title in the collection meaning that the video can be played for groups of students without violating copyright. LRT is also working on a project to catalogue about 22,000 still photos that reflect the natural and social history of Nova Scotia. LRT also maintains a web site with lots of goodies: curriculum links, strategies for using resources, a version of the video catalogue and specialty catalogues to download. It is also possible to order resources electronically. The Web site is http://lrt.ednet.ns.ca/.

The photo includes Sarah Hainsworth and the LRT Library Assistant, Gayle Ford. Other staff, Jackie Bowman and Wayne Pickering were unavailable when the photo was taken. Sarah Hainsworth, Learning Resources and Technology Media Librarian, took last year off as an extended maternity leave and she is excited to be back at work, looking forward to busy and productive times. "There is nothing like a year away from work to whet the appetite for working", says Sarah.

NOVA SCOTIA PROVINCIAL LIBRARY NEWS

The 9th Annual Seniors Expo is on July 17 and 18, 1998 at the World Trade & Convention Centre in Halifax, and representatives from the Provincial Library will be there to promote the Services which are

specific to persons with a print-handicap. The Talking Books Service, providing access to over 8,000 books on tape for persons who cannot read or have difficulty accessing conventional print as a result of a physical disability, is available in all Nova Scotia regional libraries. The 1996/97 Talking Books Catalogue and updates are available through the Provincial Library home page at http://www.library.ns.ca/provlib/talkb.html. The Descriptive Video Service provides access to a number of popular movies on videotape specially made for persons who are blind or have low vision.

This photo from the 1997 Seniors Expo shows Linda Langille and Mary Ellen Moore from the Halifax Regional Library talking with a senior citizen and Ann Dunsworth, who runs special services at the Nova Scotia Provincial Library. Ann Dunsworth is showing the Nova Scotia Provincial Library booth to interested seniors again this year.

1998 Summer Reading Program - Kids Connect@the Library

All nine regional libraries are taking advantage of this yearly initiative to encourage children to read and use the Internet connections available at every library in the province. Education and Culture Minister Robbie Harrison said "The summer reading program motivates young people to read and develop Internet skills, and promote family literacy." Last year, more than 8,000 young people were involved in the summer reading program. Sponsors of the program include the Nova Scotia Provincial Library, Industry Canada's Library Net, Canadian Heritage's Young Canada Works and Tattletales Books in Dartmouth.

Ann Whebby, Owner/Operator of Tattletales Books, donated many of the prizes. She is shown here with Betty Thomas, a member of the Halifax Regional Library Board, holding up some up the goodies at the province-wide launch on June 25.

Displaying some of the prizes are Arlene Watts, Library Assistant in charge of the Summer Reading Program at the Nova Scotia Provincial Library, Betty Thomas, and Scott Mahony of Ellershouse, Nova Scotia.

An added dimension this year is a virtual exchange program providing "connectedness" for the children involved. The Pictou-Antigonish and Eastern Counties Regional Libraries will link in a virtual exchange with libraries in the Northwest Territories to develop websites to share each other's unique culture. The websites will showcase stories and display writing about popular characters and the way of life in their communities.

PICTOU-ANTIGONISH REGIONAL LIBRARY NEWS

Talking about Youth Crime in Canada

Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library hosted a lecture by Owen Carrigan, author of "Juvenile Delinquency in Canada: A History" on April 23. The discussion that ensued was very timely, because of a recent murder in Pictou County committed by teens. Mr. Carrigan, a native of New Glasgow, spoke at the New Glasgow Branch about the causes of teen crimes and offered potential solutions such as community curfews and after-school programs, as well as parents spending more time talking with their children.

Nature and Wildlife in Nova Scotia

Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library and the Pictou County Naturalists Club co-sponsored a dozen sessions related to nature and wildlife at the New Glasgow Branch during the period September 1997 to May 1998. These lively sessions featured guest speakers from all over the province on many topics. For example, Mark Elderkin gave a talk on "Species at Risk in Nova Scotia" recently.

Author Readings

A "Coffee and Chat" session was held with author Lesley Choyce on May 20 at the New Glasgow Branch. Linda Arsenault, Community Services Librarian with the Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library, described the program as a perfect way to spend an afternoon. Over 20 people had an opportunity to talk to Lesley, who has written 46 books so far. Photos of Lesley and a cover from one of his books appear here. The second author reading held recently featured Betty Boudreau Vaughan, the 1998 Dartmouth Book and Writing Award winner. She read from her prize-winning book "I'll Buy You An Ox" at the New Glasgow Branch in May.

SOUTH SHORE REGIONAL LIBRARY NEWS

Puppet Shows As Popular As Ever

Over two dozen young borrowers were entertained at the Bridgewater Branch Library with a puppet show recently. South Shore staff were pleased to cooperate with the local Waldorf school whose teachers, Marianna Schwab and Judy King, presented "The Frog Prince".

Magical Entertainment for Youth

The South Shore Regional Library was the place to be during March Break! Local magician and "King of Kards" Dan Venie entertained children with his amazing feats of magic and sleight of hand. In the photo, two young borrowers remove the magic rope from around Dan Venie's vulnerable neck.

Summer Reading Club

Children at the South Shore Regional Library can connect to fun this summer with the Library's summer reading program. As children and youth read their way through the program they will receive small 'incentives' (such as stickers and bookmarks) to encourage them to keep going. Young people who complete the program by reading 25 books will receive a poster and have their names entered in a draw for a t-shirt, mouse pad or fridge magnet. The program will begin June 23 and run until September 4.

Fundraising News

Two Bridgewater parents have decided to raise money to replace an aging, stand-alone computer used by children at the Bridgewater Branch Library. The campaign encourages children to donate "Coins for the Computer". The campaign is now in it's second phase and is over half way to its goal of $2,300. Bridgewater's Sagors' Bookstore generously sponsored an Adopt-A-Book campaign for the Library late last fall. Patrons were encouraged to donate the purchase price of a book they chose from the "Adopt-A-Book" shelf at Sagors'. The book was forwarded to the Library for processing and the patron received a receipt for tax purposes as well as a special bookplate in the new book and the first chance to borrow the book. The project raised $3,403 worth of new books.

Another fundraiser is the annual summer booksale. The sale, which raises over $2,000 each year, sells books that are discarded, worn out or donated to the Library. This photo captures the busy atmosphere at last summer's sale.

WESTERN COUNTIES REGIONAL LIBRARY NEWS

Adopt-A-Book Campaign

The Western Counties Regional Library Adopt-A-Book campaign, launched on April 3, and sponsored by CJLS, has received tremendous support in Digby, Shelburne and Yarmouth counties.

Attractions at the launch included performances by dancers from Anne Marie Comeau's School of Dancing.

Heather Gavel, Library Clerk at the Yarmouth Branch, dressed up in a heart costume to show her enthusiasm. The costume was made by Sue Crosby and the hat by Joanne Head, also staff members at Western Counties Regional Library. Members of the Senior Kickin' Country 100's group in Yarmouth also performed for this event. The third annual campaign came to a close June 30, and has more than exceeded its goal of 1,000 new books.

Last but not least, this was a good day to try out the computers - a major attraction now for all ages. Hank Reed, author of "A Most Generous Gift: A History of the Yarmouth Public Library and Museum, its People - its Places" spends some time on the launch day searching the library resources.

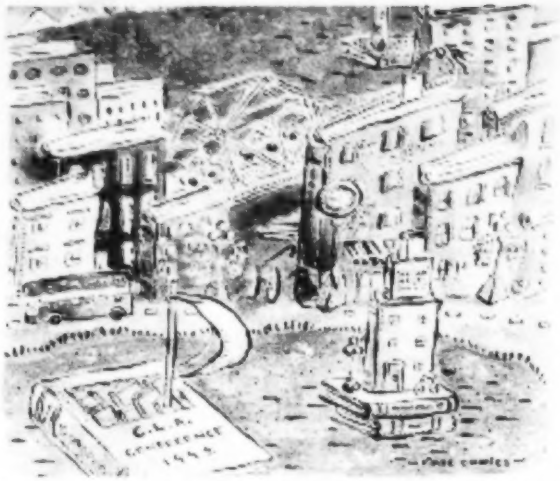
In other news, WCRL found that the region exceeded its circulation goal. WCRL had established a goal of 5% increase in circulation for the 1997-98 year. When statistics were compiled the figures resulted in a 7.25% increase! Plans are now well underway for staging the first Library Card Month for the region. The objective is to double membership during the month of September. WCRL is in the process of securing sponsorship from regional newspapers, radio, and cable TV stations across the region. More details to follow in the next Disseminator!

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The Canadian Millennium Partnership Program

Administered by the Millennium Bureau of Canada, this program provides financial assistance and/or endorsement for initiatives that will promote partnerships that will leave a lasting legacy. Canadian non-profit groups, private enterprise and other organizations are eligible to apply. The Government of Canada will fund activities which encompass certain themes, over a maximum three year period. Funding will be limited to a maximum of one third of eligible expenditures. The application form is on the Millenium Web site at www.millennium.gc.ca. For more information on this and and millennium projects, call 1-888-774-9999.

Canadian Library Association Conference



Beautiful downtown Victoria was the site of the 1998 CLA Conference, which attracted over 1,200 delegates. The conference began with a keynote address by John Ralston Saul, who encouraged librarians to be true to traditional library values. He warned against buying into the anti-public sector campaign being waged by "corporatists". Popular sessions included discussions of Internet filters, fundraising strategies and the relationship between public libraries and community networks. This last session featured a video produced by the Yarmouth Community Net which emphasized its close links with Western Counties Regional Library. Audiotapes of several of the sessions will be purchased by the Nova Scotia Provincial Library. Contact Frank Oram at oramfl@gov.ns.ca or 424-2480 for information about borrowing them.

On another matter, the Greater Victoria Public Library Board is under fire for its meeting room policy, which allows any legal organization, however "unpopular", to book the Library's meeting room. The Canadian Library Trustees Association (CLTA), the Canadian Association of Public Libraries (CAPL) and CLA all passed resolutions at their Annual General Meetings supporting the Board's commitment to intellectual freedom. A resolution opposing the Multilateral Agreement on Investment (MAI) was also passed. The 1999 Conference will be held in Toronto.

LINKed

In keeping with the theme of this special issue of The Disseminator, here are some Internet sites which should be useful for library public relations work. The American Library Association's PR-Talk Shop! Site is at http://www.ssdesign.com/prtalkshop/ At this site you can download graphics in PR-Talk!ART. PRTalk!IDEAS has some of the best ideas which have been posted to the PRTalk listserve and you can also subscribe to the PRTalk listserve at this page. There are free ALA Online Workshops such as The Library Card Sign-Up Month Online Workshop and The National Library Week/School Library Month Online Workshop in which you can enroll. Tutorials give you tips and tools to use in these areas. There are also online interactive threaded discussion groups known as Table Talk Sessions, e.g. the "Libraries & Books Go To The Movies" which is a source of great ideas. Finally this site has a link to Library Media & PR at http://www.ssdesign.com/librarypr/ , an electronic magazine which has PR articles and a toolbox with a large selection of library related clipart which can be downloaded. The current issue has tips on booking storybook character costumes for library visits.

Friends of Libraries USA at http://www.folusa.com/ has useful Fact Sheets on such topics as Organizing and Revitalizing Friends Groups, Fund-Raising, Holding a Readathon, Getting Involved with Literacy Programs, Book and Author Events, and Checklists for Planning Successful Programs and for Advocacy. The Library Clipart Collection at http://www.netins.net/showcase/meyers/library_clipart/clipart.html has a large collection of library related images which can be downloaded and appear to have been assembled by the Webmaster of the Public Library of Des Moines, Iowa.

If you have any suggestions about future topics for this column please contact Carol Morris at cmorris@nshpl.library.ns.ca .

PROFESSIONAL READING

The following documents have been recently released by the Nova Scotia Provincial Library. Contact Nancy Gaudet at gaudetnt@gov.ns.ca to to borrow one of the following documents or request a copy.

Access For All: A Strategic Plan for Public Libraries in Nova Scotia. Halifax: Nova Scotia Provincial library, 1998. [Pamphlet]
The long awaited strategic plan for public libraries in the province is now available on the WWW at **http://www.library.ns.ca/whatsnew.html** and in in pamphlet format. This document provides a vision statement along with principles, goals, objectives and actions.

Access The World: Nova Scotia Provincial / Regional Libraries Annual Report 1995-97. Halifax: Nova Scotia Dept. of Education and Culture, 1998.
The Nova Scotia Provincial Library has published a two year report which covers activities of the Nova Scotia Provincial Library and the Nova Scotia Regional Public Libraries, as well as detailed statistical information in the form of charts and graphs.

Directory of Nova Scotia Libraries. Halifax: Nova Scotia Provincial Library, 1998.
This recently revised directory is a comprehensive listing of libraries and archival institutions in Nova Scotia. Published annually, it lists over 180 library and related institutions in the province. Individual entries are arranged alphabetically by institution name. A new feature is a detailed index to the wealth of information. Appendices have been included on regional school boards and library and related associations. Copies are available for purchase in print format or on 3.5" diskette in WordPerfect format for $10.00 + HST. To order, please contact Judy Naugler at nauglejr@gov.ns.ca or call 424-2454.

Sharing Resources in Nova Scotia: Report of the Regional Public Libraries Funding Review Committee. Halifax: Nova Scotia Dept. of Education & Culture, 1998.
In this report, the focus of the three-year funding arrangement for 1998-99 to 2000-01 is to assist regional library boards to begin the process of meeting minimum standards for library service. Changes to the formula for this period are minimal. These changes include setting the board generated funding requirement to a more realistic 3% of the approved operating funding, increasing the French language grant from 5% to 10% of the annual provincial grant and providing Eastern Counties Regional Library Board with an additional $18,000 per year over the life of the formula to allow it to begin the move towards meeting the minimum standard of service from a sustainable base.

Standards for Nova Scotia Regional Public Libraries. Halifax: Nova Scotia Dept. of Education &

Culture, 1998.

This document was developed in cooperation with the Library Boards Association of Nova Scotia, the Nova Scotia Provincial Library, the Nova Scotia Library Association and the Regional Library Boards of Nova Scotia. It provides for a core program for the province's public libraries and also sets standards for assessing collections, personnel, levels of service, open hours, automation,facilities and governance.